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COMMISSIONER

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 5, 2006
TO: Board Members
FROM: Henry Jennings
SUBJECT: Stakeholders Committee for Aerial Issues

At the July 21, 2006 meeting, the Board directed the staff to develop two committees to address aerial application issues identified during the annual planning process: a technical committee to evaluate recent research and a stakeholders committee to recommend changes to the Board. At the September 15, 2006 meeting, the Board held a long discussion on the composition and charge of the two committees, but focused on the technical committee because the members felt it was logical to review the research first.

A few points came out of that discussion and subsequent staff discussions that are pertinent to the development of the stakeholders committee.

- The committee needs to strike a balance between the affected interest groups.
- Economic considerations are important.
- Attempts to include all potential stakeholders could result in a very large committee. Large committees become unwieldy and slow the process. The staff recommends the Board exercise restraint and focus on those stakeholders most directly affected. Other interested stakeholders can be kept on the mailing list and given an opportunity to provide input.

Lebelle noted that the stakeholders identified to date could be placed in three general groupings: those representing groups potentially impacted by drift, those representing pesticide users and governmental officials. One possible strategy to develop a manageable committee would be to select four individuals from each group for a total of twelve committee members.